

The A. P. of L. Weekly News Service gives news, comments and analysis of national and international news, and includes facts and figures of interest to the trade union movement.

WHOLE NO. 1627

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 1942

GREEN, MELVYN, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 32, NO. 24

FACING THE FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

Labor has its war heroes, too. They seldom get honorable mention in the headlines. They are the men and women who are the backbone of the nation's industry. They are the men and women who are the backbone of the nation's industry. They are the men and women who are the backbone of the nation's industry.

Soma, by all the standards of valor, was a landlubber when he shipped aboard a freighter from a Middle Atlantic port last April. It was his first deep-water voyage. He knew about the enemy submarines lurking off the coast. But he dared to do his bit for America.

On the night of April 13, Soma's ship was attacked by three of these submarines in the South Atlantic. The first U-boat fired an incendiary shell from close range at the unarmed freighter, destroying the bridge. A second shell hit the engine room and was plunged into the sea. U-boat, he managed to climb aboard the raft where he joined the Chief Engineer, a fireman and another seaman.

Thirty-Two Days On a Raft
"We were happy to see the ship go down," Soma said in describing the tragedy, "because the flames lit up the sea and we were in danger of being shot by machine gun fire from the submarines."

The next morning, Soma and his companions, including two lifeboats but those aboard failed to see the raft.

And during the next 32 days, that tiny raft was tossed and buffeted about in the open sea without sight of land or ship, in calm and in storm. The chief engineer died within the first week. Just before his death he was rescued from cold and exposure and three days later the provisions and much of the fresh water overboard. The fireman died a few days later.

The crewing days and nights were a constant horror for Soma and his last remaining companion. Twice Soma was washed overboard by high waves and just managed to climb back on the raft. Sharks followed them for days waiting for human prey and once a whale dived directly under the raft.

Other seamen disappeared only the night before the rescue. Soma isn't certain how it happened. "I must have been asleep," he said, "because I don't know just how or when it happened. I was just sleeping, and I was just sleeping, and I was just sleeping."

They had run out of water ten days before. The other seaman, a younger man, was so parched that he drank seawater. Soma, too, was finally driven to drinking salt water.

Soma was still conscious when he sighted the British freighter that rescued him. He tried to stand up and wave, but he was too weak. He was taken to the hospital and he was taken to the hospital and he was taken to the hospital.

Nothing is so discouraging as to sit helplessly on one of those rafts, tossed about by the waves and wind, without hope of rescue, and to see in the distance the progress toward a definite goal would keep hope alive and in many cases the chances of reaching shore and saving lives would be increased.

Surely, that isn't too much to ask!

Supreme Court Makes Two Rulings

On Overtime Pay Under Wage Act

Washington, D. C.—The Wage-Hour Act received a boost and a blow from the Supreme Court's two rulings today. The court, by an 8-to-1 majority, held that the law required overtime pay for time and one-half rates for overtime work, even though an employer may be excused from doing so if he can show that he is not in the business of commerce.

This favorable ruling was given by the majority, headed down by a 5-to-4 vote, which sustained the right of the employer to get around the time-and-one-half provision by showing that the business is not in the business of commerce.

The first opinion upheld a back pay suit brought by William Green, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, against the Overnite Motor Transportation Company. Green claimed that the company had violated minimum overtime pay, based extra pay for overtime work, and that the company had violated the minimum of 30 cents an hour, rather than the minimum of 30 cents an hour, which was required by the Wage-Hour Act.

Written by Justice Stanley F. Reed, this decision declared that the Wage-Hour Act requires overtime pay for overtime work, even though an employer may be excused from doing so if he can show that he is not in the business of commerce.

Justice Robert H. Jackson dissented. He said that the Wage-Hour Act was not intended to apply to the Overnite Motor Transportation Company, which was not in the business of commerce.

The majority also ruled that Miss Green was entitled to collect double back pay—half of that as damages equal to the amount of back pay.

This was the first time the court sustained the minimum overtime provision of the Wage-Hour Act, and the decision will open the way for many more suits by workers who have been victims of the law.

\$300 Government Employees Bonus

Urged by Green and La Follette

Washington, D. C.—President William Green of the AFL and Senator Robert M. La Follette, Jr. of Wisconsin joined in urging a \$300 annual bonus for government employees who are in the District of Columbia as provided in the pending House bill.

Speaking over the network of the United Broadcasting System, Mr. Green and Mr. La Follette stressed the importance of President Roosevelt's recommendation that time-and-a-half for overtime be paid to thousands of Federal employees who do not now receive extra pay for overtime.

Pointing out that the Ransome bill was framed by the nation's Government employees affiliated with the American Federation of Labor to meet an emergency, Mr. Green said:

"Our Government should be a model employer. It cannot afford to neglect the needs of its employees. Government employees are the backbone of the nation's industry and they receive less pay than the private industry worker."

The situation of the great majority of Government employees is most depressing. The cost of living has skyrocketed and their pay is not keeping pace with the cost of living. They are not getting the same pay as the private industry worker.

Agreeing with the urgent need for a Government bonus, Mr. Green said: "The Government employees have been working hard and long hours for the past several years. They have been working hard and long hours for the past several years. They have been working hard and long hours for the past several years."

He urged that the Government should give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year. He said that the Government should give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year. He said that the Government should give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year.

Senator La Follette also urged the Government to give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year. He said that the Government should give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year. He said that the Government should give a bonus of \$300 to its employees for the past year.

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News Briefs

AFL JOINS THE ARMY—FOR RADIO BROADCAST

Washington, D. C.—The American Federation of Labor is joining the Army for the first time in a radio broadcast. The AFL will broadcast a program on June 27 over the national NBC network.

In collaboration with the Office of Supply of the United States Army, the AFL will broadcast interviews with workers on the job in the giant Westinghouse machine tool plant at Cleveland.

Another feature will be the airing of the first live broadcast meeting of a joint union-management committee in the steel industry. This key was production center. The program will air at 10:15 P. M., June 27.

RICHMOND SHIPYARDS SIGN OFFICE WORKERS CONTRACT

Oakland, Calif.—AFL Office Workers Union, No. 29744 of Oakland has negotiated an agreement with Richmond Shipyard, which is a part of the United States Navy. The agreement contains the best wages and benefits in the industry.

The agreement also provides for a 10 percent increase in wages and a 10 percent increase in benefits. It also provides for a 10 percent increase in wages and a 10 percent increase in benefits.

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"Any Bonds Today?"—AFL Answers With One Billion Dollar "Yes!"

Green, Melvyn Douglas and Union Officials Take Part in "Labor For Victory" Program

Washington, D. C.—Any bonds today? The American Federation of Labor answered this question with a billion-dollar "Yes!" in the "Labor For Victory" program broadcast throughout the nation over NBC June 15 by the AFL in collaboration with the United States Treasury Department.

"We are fulfilling our pledge," President William Green declared while interviewed about the AFL billion-dollar War Bonds drive. He said that the AFL was fulfilling its pledge to the nation by buying War Bonds and War Stamps.

The slogan star who was asked to appear on the program, presented to James C. Fligge, secretary of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the first Treasury Department certificate of award to go to an international union for achieving 100 per cent participation in regular War Savings Bond purchases.

The Brotherhood Union, the smallest international in the American Federation of Labor, has only 31 members. More than 25,000 in War Bonds already been subscribed by the workers, or over 8200 apiece, Douglas and Fligge said. Many of the subscribers are women, who make the bonds they buy, being employed to reproduce original engravings on steel plates.

The Government paper and other securities are printed by the United States Treasury Department. The AFL is the only union to have achieved 100 per cent participation in regular War Savings Bond purchases.

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National Policy for Farm Workers Recommended by Senate Labor Unit

Washington, D. C.—A new national policy for the treatment of the nation's migrant and seasonal farm workers and their families was proposed in a report to the United States Senate by the Senate Labor Committee.

The report, which was prepared by the Senate Labor Committee, recommended that the Federal Government should establish a national policy for the treatment of the nation's migrant and seasonal farm workers and their families.

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JUDGE UPHOLDS PLEDGE

Ketchikan, Alaska.—Federal District Judge George A. Alexander handed down a decision upholding the union's right to picket. The decision was handed down in a case involving the union's right to picket.

GREEN ASKS AFL MEMBERS END SCRAP RUBBER DRIVE

Washington, D. C.—President William Green called upon the six million members of the American Federation of Labor to end the scrap rubber drive for the collection of scrap rubber.

Green said that the scrap rubber drive was a waste of time and money. He said that the scrap rubber drive was a waste of time and money. He said that the scrap rubber drive was a waste of time and money.

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Dubinsky Hails Phenomenal Gains Of Garment Workers In Ten Years

Atlantic City, N. J.—A detailed report depicting the phenomenal gains of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in the past ten years was presented to the general executive board of the union in Atlantic City.

The report, which was prepared by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, showed that the union had made phenomenal gains in the past ten years. It also showed that the union had made phenomenal gains in the past ten years.

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